



CLUB REPEATERS

VE3TBR

Phone: 767-7661
Rx/Tx: 146.820/(-) MHz

VE3YQT

Phone: 767-5492
Rx/Tx: 147.060/(-) MHz

VA3OLA

Rx/Tx: 53.050/(-) MHz

VE3BGA

Rx/Tx: 145.450/(-) MHz

WEEKLY BREAKFASTS

Saturdays 10:00 a.m.
Blue Parrot Restaurant

2 METRE NET

Mondays 7:00 p.m.
VE3YQT Repeater.

NEXT MEETING



7:30 p.m., Room 207B
Confederation College
McIntyre Building

RAC Report

by Pat, VA3GD

Radio Amateurs of Canada will be holding meetings in Ottawa from April 17th to April 20th, 1997. The Board of Directors will meet April 19th and 20th.

The Annual General Meeting of Members will be held at the Howard Johnson in Ottawa commencing at 1:30 p.m. April 20th. This will be my first Board Meeting as your Director for Ontario North. The agenda has laid out a busy schedule for the two days with items ranging from the budget to the impact of the ARRL proposed changes on HF Band Planning. As HF Band Plan Coordinator I was fortunate enough to attend the Board Meetings in Niagara Falls when the IARU Region 2 meetings were held in Canada so this is not my first time around the Board Table.

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club is busy with preparations for Scouts Canada Jamboree '97 which will be held July 12, 1997 to July 20, 1997 in Thunder Bay. 10,500 Scouts and their leaders will be attending the Jamboree. The LARC will be conducting radio classes during the Jamboree as well as operating a Jamboree radio station. The call will be CJ3FW. If you know any Scouts or Leaders who will be attending the Jamboree, say hello and talk to them about setting up schedules for contacting home. The station manager will be Terry Stewardson, VE3TKA and you

can contact him through email <tsteward@tbaytel.net>, packet VE3TKA@VE3TKA.#NON.ON.CAN.CA, or by snail mail, to set up any schedules.

The little LEOs have come out from behind the curtain, revealing they want to share our VHF/UHF spectrum, 146 to 148, 219 to 225 and 430 to 450 MHz. Despite all their protests that the little LEOs were benign we find that they filed for sharing back in February.

RAC has a busy year coming up. Even with the demise of ARAS/SARA the Directors and Executive will be very active. RAC Headquarters is fortunate to have an active group of volunteers from the Ottawa area helping to keep the show on the road. Without them our minuscule staff would have a difficult time coping.

Support your national organization, join RAC.

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1996/1997 LARC

Founding President

P.J. (Pat) O'Shea, VE3FW
1881-1972

In honour of the memory of our founding president, Mr. P.J. (Pat) O'Shea, the club call sign is VE3FW.

Senate

Bill Roberts, VE3ARN
Keith Fiske, VE3JQ
Bert Lambert, VE3BKY
Ray Greer, VE3CH
Hugh Elliott, VE3EDW
Bill Klemacki, VE3AJ

Executive Board

President: Ian Mellis, VA3RIM	577-1628
Vice Pres: Ed Baumann, VE3SNW	622-1216
Secretary: Norm Bell, VE3XRC	577-9316
Treasurer: John Watson, VE3GTX	683-3199
Directors: Judy LeFevre, VA3EAP	622-7920
Dave Horne, VA3DVE	344-9325
Don Bel, VA3DPB	473-5482
Rob Van Wyck, VE3FLB	344-7845
Mem.Sec: John Watson, VE3GTX	683-3199
PastPres: Terry. Stewardson, VE3TKA	577-9439
HI-Q Ed: Robert Mazur, VA3ROM	344-7731

Thunder Bay Voyageur Award

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club in cooperation with the City of Thunder Bay, sponsors the Voyageur Award. Any SWL, scanner listener or ham monitoring or working 5 Thunder Bay amateur radio stations qualifies. Send your log copy with dates, times, frequencies, call signs and \$2.00 to the Awards Manager at the club address below.

Club and Newsletter Information

HI-Q is published by the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Inc., an Ontario registered non-profit corporation. The opinions expressed or implied in issues of *HI-Q* are those of the author. The LARC assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or the information submitted.

Material in *HI-Q* may be copied for non-profit use provided that credit is given to the source. Contributions related to amateur radio, especially those articles of interest to Northwestern Ontario amateurs are encouraged. Material can be submitted in WordPerfect® format or as a text file via fax: 807-345-2688, packet: VA3ROM@VE3TKA, voice mail: VE3TBR repeater user 159 or via email: rmazur@tbaytel.net. Send material or dated announcements no later than the 25th of the month that it is to appear.

To reduce costs, advertising at the following per issued rates is accepted: full-page—\$60.00, 1/2 page—\$40.00, 1/4 page—\$20.00 and 1/8 page—\$15.00. Reduced rates (1/3 off) are available upon receipt of advance payment for 10 issues (one full year). Send your ad copy and cheque (payable to the LARC) to the club address listed below. Advertising in *HI-Q* does not imply an endorsement or recommendation of the product or service.

LARC membership fees are set for the year as follows: regular—\$30.00, associate—\$20.00, associate (attending ham classes)—\$90.00, student (attending school full-time)—\$15.00 and family—\$30.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional family member living at the same address. *HI-Q* is sent to all LARC members but only one copy is mailed to each address.

Mailing Address

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Avenue, Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 4A3, Canada.

Internet Home Page

Get your copy of *HI-Q* electronically at:
<http://www.tbaytel.net/srobb/larc.htm>.

Letter of Appreciation

It has been only a few months since I have become a member of the LARC, but I must thank everyone for being so helpful and very supportive. Even before I passed my test and became an Amateur Radio Operator, I attended the nightly gatherings at the local Java Hut and was always welcomed. I will never tell anyone that becoming a member of the LARC was a mistake.

My husband, Al, VA3AMY, has been a member for just over a year, but I was always a little leery about becoming an Amateur Radio Operator because of being a woman, and how I would be received. Well, after meeting members of LARC, I put my mind to rest. They were all very gracious and I felt right at home. I kept putting the studying off, then I got laid off from my job and had lots of time on my hands and no more excuses. I received a lot

of encouragement from the coffee gang to start to study.

I would like to thank Ed Baumann, VE3SNW, for taking the time with me to get me through the dreaded exam. Keep up the classes, Ed, they are really great! I would also like to thank Alan Parnell, VA3IOU, for purchasing a used hand held radio for me and allowing me to repay him on a payment plan. Trying to get VA3AMY's radio is next to impossible.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the rest of the LARC membership for the encouragement that I have received, and yes I will start to study the Morse code for my 12 wpm. I only hope that I can repay the people at LARC for their support and kindness.

Sincerely yours,

Janice Sokoloski, VA3JRS.

Repeater Quick Guide

The code to answer the autopatch on VE3YQT has been changed. Sorry about that folks but every once in a while I have to mess things up just to keep us on our toes. Rather than explain the difference, I will just list the codes for both repeaters and maybe you can cut them out and keep them handy. The changes are for YQT only. 73—Steve, VE3KRH.

YQT ACCESS INFO

- * Plus 7 digit phone no. for autopatch.
- * Plus 3 digit USER no. for speed dial.
- * Will answer the phone.(YQT only).
- # Will terminate the autopatch.
- * Plus 3 digits will invoke a custom hang-up code. Do NOT use the following digits in your custom hang-up code: D, #, or 3.

If you press the PTT momentarily when you hear the repeater say "AUTOPATCH," you will mute the reading back of the phone number dialled.

TBR ACCESS INFO

- * Plus 7 digit phone no. for autopatch.
- # Will terminate the autopatch.
- #1 Initialize ECHO TEST.
- #2 Initialize DEVIATION TEST.
- #3 Initialize DTMF TEST.
- #4 Announce TIME.
- #5 Initialize SINAD TEST.
- #6 Initialize FREQUENCY TEST.
- #7 What's in the MAILBOX.

More information on TBR functions can be obtained by reading the user manual.

Meeting Minutes

by Norm, VE3XRC

Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club held in Room 207B at Confederation College, Carried.

Thunder Bay, Ontario on March 13, 1997.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the President, VA3RIM, Ian Mellis with 32 members and guests in attendance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of VE3EEG, Jim Wheeler and VE3JAB, Bob Bishop who became silent keys since the last meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting held February 13, 1997 were published in detail in the March edition of *HI-Q* and mailed to all members. **Motion:** moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VA3GD, Pat Doherty that the minutes be accepted as published. **Carried.**

Treasurer's Report: VE3GTX, John Watson:

Balance as of January 1, 1997:
\$2,871.40

Income :

Bank Interest	0.60
T & S Radio	71.00
Donation	50.00
50/50 Draw	32.00
Mem. Dues	240.00
Annual Dinner	1038.00

1,431.60

Expenses:

Telephone	121.92
Mail Boxes Etc.	394.11
T & S Radio	29.84
Annual Dinner	1042.56
RAC	231.76

(1,820.19)

Balance as of February 28, 1997:
\$2,482.81

Motion: moved by VE3GTX,

John Watson and seconded by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Correspondence: none

Committee Reports:

Public Service: VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki thanked those who participated in the Sibley Ski Tour. There are no public service events on the books for March and April, but May will be a busy month. Information regarding CJ'97 is on the Club's home page. Ski Night: VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton reported that 12 amateurs and friends participated in the first annual LARC Ski Night held on February 27/97. It was a good time and the trails were in excellent condition.

New Business:

1997 Field Day: VA3DPB, Don Bell is looking for volunteers to help organize this year's field day. A site has not yet been picked out, but Don is looking for a site close to town. VE3RVA, Bob Hansen and VE3UY, Dave Bell volunteered to sit on the field day committee.

Bike mobile: VE3DWP, Dan Darling proposed a meeting of those who like to go mobile without the use of gas. He has an idea in the works to get the fresh air mobiles together.

O.P.P. Christmas Parade: VA3RIM, Ian Mellis tossed out the idea of the LARC putting a float into the 1997 parade. VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson has access to a truck and trailer. Due to the size of the trailer, it might be shared with another group. VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski volunteered to work on the committee.

RAC Report: VA3GD, Pat Doherty reported that the issue of RAC taking over the administration of licences has been put on hold by the government after more than 3 years of work by RAC. RAC's recent appeal for new members was very successful. He will be attending the Board meeting in April.

Answering Code for VE3YQT: VE3KRH, Steve Robb has changed the code to answer an incoming phone call on VE3YQT. To answer an incoming phone call, press the star (*) once and if it works, you will hear "beep-beep."

55+ Centre: VE3NPS, Nestor Procup stated that the constitution for the radio club at the 55+ Centre requires 5 amateurs over the age of 55 as directors. They are now in need of additional directors and Nestor asked for volunteers to come forward to keep this operation going. Although located in the 55+ Centre, the ham and computer club is a separate operation.

Low Power FM Station: VE3JJJ, Greg Linton, an electrical engineering student at Lakehead University is looking into the possibilities of putting a low power FM station on the air at the university. He is looking for expertise from the ham community and possibly equipment. Greg was given the names of several hams who might be able to help him out.

50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 draw was VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski.

Adjournment: moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by VA3PEP, Carl Storry that the meeting be adjourned. **Carried.**

Bob Bishop, VE3JAB—1924-1997

Prepared for presentation at the memorial service of the late Bob Bishop, VE3JAB in Westminster United Church in Thunder Bay on March 11, 1997, by Ian Mellis, VA3RIM.

"I have been entrusted by Bob's family to say a few words about Bob's involvement with amateur radio. In April, 1995, I had the opportunity of interviewing Bob at his home when he was selected to be the *Personality of the Month* for the newsletter that is published by the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club. To be chosen to be *Personality of the Month*, a person has to be worthy of the honour because the newsletter is sent to many places around the world and it is placed on the Internet for the whole world to see. I learned that Bob surpassed our requirements by a very wide margin. The name Bob Bishop is known around the world by thousands of people.

Today my task is daunting because he did so much in his lifetime and amateur radio is only a small part

Bob first became interested in amateur radio when he was still in his teenage years, living in Regina, Saskatchewan during the latter part of the Depression in the 1930's. His family had gone to a summer resort about forty miles north of Regina and Bob saw a great tower topped with a beam antenna. Upon being invited into the man's radio room, Bob saw a room full of cabinets and tubes. He saw the radio that could beam out a 1000 watts of legal power. Bob was bitten by the radio bug. He asked the man about his huge antenna but Mr. Rodgers [that was all of the name that Bob

remembered] told Bob to return again sometime to learn more about amateur radio. The return visit was postponed because World War II came along and Bob had enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. After the war Bob did return to see Mr. Rodgers but Mr. Rodgers had passed away. Mr. Rodgers had become a Silent Key. [that is a term used by amateur radio operators when a person is no longer able to send or receive Morse code on his keyer.] His key is silent.

The second World War took Bob away from Canada for the next three and a half years. Bob spent a horrendous time in aircraft, flying over India, Burma and China doing communications work. Morse code had to be learned because his life and the lives of countless others depended on it. Speed and accuracy were paramount and Bob excelled.

Bob returned to Canada and enrolled in McGill University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree. In 1951 when Bob and Beverley were married, it just so happened that the uncle of the bride was an amateur radio operator known as Al Davis, VE5AQ from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Al is here today. [From here on I will use amateur radio calls. These calls are as important as one's name.] Amateur radio was not a factor in Bob's life for the next twenty-five years. He was busy earning a living and raising a family. He worked in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Montreal, Peterborough, Sault Ste. Marie and Kenora. It was in Kenora while working as a Project Expeditor on the refurbishing of Minaki Lodge for

Tom Jones Construction that the amateur radio bug bit Bob again. Woody Linton, his friend, wanted to become an amateur radio operator also. Woody is here today and will be speaking shortly.

In 1976, Bob earned his amateur radio licence and got the call VE3JAB. Woody's call was VE3JJA. It would appear that Bob wanted to make up for lost time because for the next twenty-one years, Bob became a powerful force within amateur radio circles. In 1976, Bob obtained his Advanced Amateur Radio licence. By the end of 1982, Bob had logged 10,319 contacts on radio around the world. He talked to such places as Maricibo, Singapore and Hong Kong. This was all done on radio equipment that he personally built. Bob was an amazing talent both academically and technically. One incident that he related to me happened on December 2, 1976. He heard distress calls from a ship carrying ten people that was in trouble in the north Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Baffin Island. Bob said, "Please standby while I call Air Sea Rescue." He then telephoned Trenton Air Base and provided a direct phone patch to the ship and stayed there until conditions deteriorated. He then found an American operator to take over. He did not know the outcome of the incident but he did try to save the lives of the people on that ship. Bob was involved with the earthquakes of Mexico and California. Local media people were at Bob's home with their television cameras and microphones. Bob had the information. Bob made many

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(Bob Bishop Continued from page4)

phone patches when he connected non amateurs on telephones with people on radios. He would connect military personnel in the Arctic to loved ones in the South at Christmas time.

The list of Bob's accomplishments seems to be unending. While he was Director of the Y.M.C.A. in Thunder Bay and a member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Bob was responsible for obtaining New Horizon grants to provide a radio station for seniors at Hogarth-Westmount Hospital and he did it again at the 55 Plus Centre. Bob was responsible for having the radio room plans incorporated into the architectural drawings. The radio room was not an add-on. It was planned by Bob. While in Sault Ste. Marie, Bob obtained radio equipment and computers for seniors in that city. He was a director of the Northwestern Ontario Senior Citizens Amateur Radio Club. As a member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Bob was a powerful force. When Bob spoke everyone listened. Bob was a communicator. Bob was instrumental in making constitutional amendments. He was responsible for the incorporation of the club. He saw to it that the constitution was followed. Bob was a prime mover when the club tried to get charitable status. Bob was the club mentor. Bob was the guiding hand of the amateur radio club. If Bob did not know the answer to a question, you could be sure that he would do his research to find the answer. Bob was our resident astronomer [another story] when it came to reporting sunspot activity that effects radio communications around the world.

Bob knew many people and many people knew Bob; sometimes it was simply by the sound of his voice. About 1991, after the American kayaking expedition on Lake Baikal in Russia, the Americans were trying to arrange a similar expedition around Lake Superior but the Americans were having trouble contacting the Russians. Bob Bishop was called in to help. He contacted by radio the required Russians around Lake Baikal in Siberia. The Lake Superior expedition eventually happened. Bob has been known to play chess with someone else while using the radio. Bob had many other interests besides amateur radio. One of these was that Bob helped document the Bishop family tree which helped the Billy Bishop museum in Orillia, Ontario. It had been Billy Bishop, a close relative and World War I flying ace who had presented Bob with his "wings" when he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. Billy Bishop had the rank of Air Vice Marshall at the time.

Until three years ago, there were two organizations that represented Canadian amateur radio operators. They were the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation and the Canadian Radio Relay League. Bob was a director of the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation. He knew that to have an effective and concentrated voice to present to the Canadian government and so that the Canadian government would have a more effective voice at world governance levels, Bob knew that the two Canadian organizations should amalgamate into one organization and Bob was a prime mover in seeing that this should happen. Bob was a

writer, an idea man, a detail man, a conciliator and a communicator. The single organization called Radio Amateurs Canada came into existence and Bob became one of its first directors.

Although Bob could take on the big guys, he also had time for the little guys also. He is known to have taken groups of little kids into his radio room so that they could learn about amateur radio. He is known to sit at a picnic bench at Sibley Provincial Park with Scouts crowded around him. He could talk about radio for hours or he just might talk about the stars for hours because Bob was an astronomer. He belonged to the Royal Astronomical Society along with other groups such as the Rotary Club.

Recently, Bob stepped down as a director of Radio Amateurs Canada because his health was failing but he was still working on our committee that is planning for the Canadian Scout Jamboree this summer in Thunder Bay. About the first of February this year, Bob mentioned that he had to go into the hospital for an operation and would not be able to attend our planning meetings for awhile but about a month ago on February 13th, Bob attended our Annual Meeting banquet. He was asked by Judy LeFevre, VA3EAP, to say the Grace. It has been a tradition for Bob to do it. Bob mentioned that he always spent much time thinking about what he would say because as he said, "I don't want to hurt or offend anyone." That night the members present were reminded that Bob was going in for an operation. The operation day came. I went to see him shortly after but I was not allowed to see him. I had to talk to Bev in the cafeteria. Bob had

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(Bob Bishop Continued from page5)

had a relapse and was unable to talk. Unbelievable shock, the great communicator could not talk. Word of Bob's condition was relayed to the members of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club. We waited. At the executive meeting last Thursday, it was reported that Bob's condition was better and we prepared to have a regular entourage visit Bob when he got home. Following the meeting, Rob Van Wyck, VE3FLB, telephoned Bob's home to enquire about Bob. He was devastated when he was told that Bob had passed away. Bob Bishop was a Silent Key.

Rob started the process for the members of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club to tell the world of the sad news. Rob emailed Pat Doherty, VA3GD. Pat called Terry Stewardson, VE3TKA, the Past President. Terry called me, VA3RIM. I called the members of the executive. First it was Ed Baumann, VE3SNW. He could not believe it. I called John Watson, VE3GTX. He was

shocked. I called Judy LeFevre, VA3EAP. I mentioned that she had given Bob his last job with the club when she had asked him to say the Grace at our Annual Meeting less than a month ago. I called Norm Bell, VE3XRC. He was not in but would be in an hour. I called back in an hour. Norm had already been informed by Larry [Skip] Wright VE3BBS. The news quickly spread. The responses were all the same; shock and disbelief.

That evening the HF rigs were fired up on the different bands and the news was beamed out into space. The message might have travelled by ground waves low to the ground or by sky waves bounced off the ionosphere to return to earth in some other part of the country. By bedtime, the news had gone coast to coast.

The process of telling the world will be completed when the next issue of *HI-Q* will be put on the Internet. Bob Bishop VE3JAB is a Silent Key. Silent but not forgotten because Bob Bishop, VE3JAB, made our world a better place to be. "

H a m Puzzler

by Randy, VA3GOT

The answers for the March puzzler by Dave, VE3AVS as follows:

VE3SNW = "INSTRUCTOR"

SSBAR = BRASS, SNIDW = WINDS, OOIRDT = TOROID, IICCUTR = CIRCUIT (one I and blank square was omitted from the puzzler.)

Can you figure out the following puzzles? An example would be as follows:

16 = O. in a P. means 16
Ounces in a Pound.

1. 4 = Q. in a G.
2. 57 = H. V.
3. 29 = D. in a L. Y.
4. 64 = S. on a C. B.
5. 88 = K on a P.

Answers in next month's issue of *HI-Q*.

LARC Public Service

by Mike, VE3ZG

Congratulations to Glen Wallace, VE3ICY, for successfully organizing the Sibley Ski Tour communications group under rather trying conditions. Thanks to Norm Bell, VE3XRC, who felt lonely at the communications centre, Linda. VE3XLB; Maureen. VE3MOB; Rob, VE3FLB; Wayne, VA3WRL; Ian, VA3RIM and Carl, VA3PEP.

Nothing doing in April, except hopefully the onset of some nice spring weather to make the snow head back north. Three events are scheduled for May. The LEGION 10 MILE ROAD RACE AND ROYAL LEPAGE RUN FOR WOMEN need event coordinators and operators. I will take names at the April meeting.

The WALK FOR HEARTS event

will also be held in May, and ERIC TODD is the event director. He will likely need a few operators, get in touch with him at 626-6666.

Volunteer applications are coming in for CJ'97, more will be heard from Norm, VE3XRC; Rob, VE3FLB; Ken, VE3EFZ and Terry, VE3TKA on this matter. Hope everyone has had a good look at Hale-Bopp.—73, Mike.

LARC Ski Nite

by Dave, VE3AVS

Warm daytime temperatures and cooling-off evening temperatures made for an excellent First Annual LARC Ski Nite. Trail temperature hovered around minus 5 C while the air was still, not a breath of wind.

Norm, Linda and Dave proved

the force of gravity is a powerful one as they hit the ground at the top of the Sunup Trail.

Even Wayne dropped a couple of times, just to make us all feel better! Rob and his XYL closed the chalet around 10 p.m.

All in all, a successful first

annual event. Some of our LARC skiers were missed. The following contributed to a fun-filled evening:

VA3PP and VA3WRL, VE3XRC, VE3XLB, VE3MOB, VE3FLB, VE3VUK and VE3AVS.—73, Dave.

Swap & Shop Truck Liner Alert

Don, VA3DPB, looking for an ASTRON SL 11A power supply. Also has an MFJ VHF SWR/Watt meter for sale.

Bob, VA3ROM, selling off or willing to trade for your junk, er, stuff:

Heathkit HW8 CW 4 band QRP rig (10, 20, 40 and 80 metres), 4 watts output. Good condition, with manual and HW8 mods book. Works great. \$150 OBO.

Heathkit HD1410 CW electronic keyer, no manual. Good condition. \$60 OBO.

Heathkit HD15 hybrid phone patch with manual. \$30 OBO.

Ramsey kit electronic CMOS keyer with manual. \$25 OBO.

Ten Tec kit HF artificial ground. Great on a long ground wire to the rig. Tunes out XL and XC, with manual. \$60 OBO.

Radio Shack HTX100, 10 metre CW/SSB rig (no FM.) Extended receive and transmit mod (25 to 32 MHz) and RIT mod. Great dedicated mode A satellite downlink receiver, with manual. \$125 OBO.

8-bit sound card and 14.4 kbps fax/modem with manuals. \$25 each.

Looking for a cheap out-of-date laptop computer 386sx to 486 with VGA LCD screen.

Warning - Death/Accident on Refuel Cans Inside Bed Liners. A flame specialist advised that there have been 23 injuries/deaths because of pickup truck owners fueling a gas can/tank that is sitting in the back of their truck without removing it.

Apparently, the bed liners do not provide a ground and generates static electricity that

can cause the fumes to ignite. The overall conclusion from the major car companies—**do not refuel gas tanks or cans metal or plastic when they are sitting on an ungrounded surface such as a plastic truck bed liner.** Even a rubber mat under the liner won't help much. *Tnx to Randy, VA3GOT. From the Helping Hand, Spring 1997, Vol 3. No.1.*

Iridium LEO Satellites

Mobile phone users will soon make calls anywhere in the world with the launch of the first of 66 satellites, on Delta rockets, forming a new communications network.

When the full network is in place in early 1998, callers will be able to ring, page, email or fax home from a Andes mountain top or the South Pole.

The system was developed by Motorola, with backing from Lockheed Martin Corp. and the Khrunichev State Research Space Centre in Moscow. The market is thought to be worth billions of dollars. Potential users include businessmen, travellers, journalists and emergency relief agencies.

Iridium works using dozens of small satellites in a comparatively low orbit (LEO) of around 750 km. Iridium uses low power transceivers and the number of satellites means that one will be overhead at any given time. The call is transmitted to the nearest Iridium satellite which relays it to the next one until a satellite is found stationed above the call's final destination.

Here the signal is beamed down to the cellular phone or traditional landline. The phones are expected to cost around \$3,000 and calls around \$3.50 per minute. These costs should rapidly decrease as the number of users increase around the world.— *Tnx to by Nick Nuttall.*

CJ'97 Update

by Rob, VE3FLB

The LARC (Lakehead Amateur Radio Club) has plans well underway to provide assistance to the 1997 Canadian Scout Jamboree to be held in Thunder Bay, July 12th to 20th. CJ'97 is and will be a massive affair, drawing young people and their leaders, to our city, from all over Canada, the States and around the world. It is estimated that the population of Thunder Bay will increase by 15,000 people over those ten days. All contained in the Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital field and south side of Boulevard Lake Park!

The activity program for the Jamboree includes one entitled *Hamming It Up* aimed towards the prospective ham. It will be a 3 hour overview, delivered twice a day, to groups of 25 participants at a time. The material covered will be calculated to give an overview of the hobby and there will be an accent on hands-on participation in areas such as HF phone, VHF packet and SWL listening. The activity will be held in the same school, code named *Scoutship Enterprise* for the Jamboree duration. This program is being coordinated by Rob Van Wyck, VE3FLB.

The third area that the LARC will be involved in, is a 24 hour amateur radio station. CJ3FW will be operating from the *Thunder Dome*, the central area of the jamboree, and will provide message handling and opportunities for participants to contact friends and scouts from around the world. There will be a need for qualified amateurs to be on call at the station and we hope that any of our club members will be available and willing.

Obviously, an undertaking this large will take a complex organization to run and the LARC will have an important role in several areas. On site communications involving security, safety, transportation and the myriad of unanticipated needs will be coordinated by Norm Bell, VE3XRC at the net control in St. Ignatius School. He will be using club and non-club members this operation.

The LARC will be operating a special event station in conjunction with the Scouts Canada Jamboree. The station is expected to be located in the Thunder Dome, which will give all interested Scouts the opportunity to view the station in operation.

The station supervisors will let as many Scouts as possible, operate the radio station during the Jamboree. The station call will be CJ3FW and will operate primarily on the JOTA (Jamboree on the Air) frequencies. The Jamboree station will have HF/VHF capabilities, operating modes being Voice (SSB), Morse code (CW), FM (Frequency Modulation on 146 MHz to 148 MHz and various digital modes.

Radio amateurs in Thunder Bay and the immediate adjacent townships will be authorized to use a special prefix from June 1st, 1997 to July 31st, 1997. VE3's may use CJ3 and VA3's may use CK3. The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club will be issuing a QSL card to all stations contacting the Jamboree station, CJ3FW.

Scouts and Leaders, who are licensed amateurs, will be able to operate from the Jamboree station after receiving instructions and a check of

operating procedures from the stations' supervisory operators. Please bring a copy of your license for verification. Scouts, who are not licensed, will be allowed to operate from the Jamboree station under direct supervision of a station supervisory operator.

Scouts wishing to set up schedules to communicate with their home communities, during the Jamboree, should contact their local amateur radio amateurs prior to departing for the Jamboree. Scheduled frequencies and times will depend on the location of the home amateur station and propagation. Your local ham will assist in setting up the best times for Scouts to contact home by Amateur Radio.

The Jamboree contact for scheduling will be Terry Stewardson, VE3TKA, email <tsteward@tbaytel.net>, or by mail at T & S Radio Electronics, 2052 Dawson Road, Thunder Bay Ontario, P7B 5E3. The schedules have to be arranged prior to leaving home, so allow time for correspondence between you, your local ham and Terry, the station supervisor.

Volunteer Examiners will be available during the Jamboree for Scouts to write exams for a Basic license or to upgrade. Licensed Scouts will have to present a copy of their license to the Examiner. Contact for examination information is Gerry Lyngstad, VE3KRZ, <glyngstad@oln.com> or mail to the LARC at the address below:

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Av.
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 4A3